

The Season of Advent



Advent

- The beginning of the church year.
- Prepare for the birth of Jesus.
- A time for waiting
- Celebrate by helping others
- Give to the needy

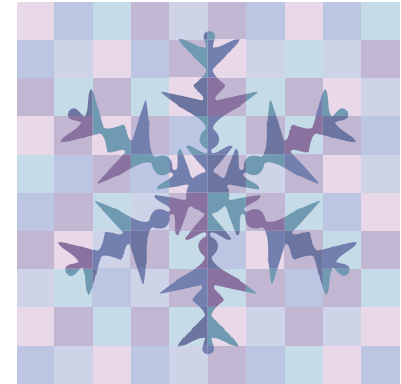


The spirit of Christmas

- The spirit of giving
- Not what you should get
- What you should give to others
- What you should do for others



Advent



- Happens in early winter.
- Longing for life, we wait for the light of the world.
- Purple is the color of Advent.
- White is the color of Christmas

What does the circle of the Advent wreath represent?

- A circle has no beginning or an end.
- The circle of the Advent wreath represents that God is so great that God never had a beginning and will never have an end.
- The wreath is a circle, causing us to remember the eternity of God's love for us and for all humanity



What do the evergreens tell us?

- Evergreens stay green all year.
- The evergreens tell us that God never changes.
- It is decked with green boughs, causing us to remember the newness of life we have in Christ Jesus



What does the first candle represent?

- Represents the **hope** of the people of Israel that someone would come save them and the period of waiting for the birth of Christ.
- The first candle reminds us of the prophets' **hope** for God's salvation to come, as Isaiah prophesied



What does the second candle represent?

- Represents the **peace** that God has given through His son Jesus Christ and the preparation for the Christ Child.



What does the third candle represent?

- Represents the **joy** of sharing Christ.
- The third candle reminds us of the **joy** of the shepherds as they heard the good news of Jesus' arrival.



What does the fourth candle represent?

- Represents **love** sent from God through His son, Jesus Christ.



What does the white candle in the middle represent?

- The Christ candle reminds us that Jesus is the **light of the world**, come into our darkness to enlighten us and give us the life of God which we share with others.



Lighting the candles

- Week 1- 1 purple candle
- Week 2- 2 purple candles
- Week 3 – 2 purple candles, one pink candle.
- Week 4- all candles

